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MAJO.

epartments

People try to throw money at all of their problems — except their debt!



NUMBER 530 DECEMBER 2014

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"Drawn Out Dramas" by Sergio Aragonés
...Various Places Around the Magazine





COVER ARTIST: MARK FREDRICKSON

HOBBIT CALENDAR ARTISTS: HERMANN MEJÍA AND TOM RICHMOND; GOLLUM ALFRED: DALE STEPHANOS

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## Letters and Tomatoes

### MORTIFYING BOARD

My high school let me pay for and wear this garish getup recently. They even let me stand on a stage and give a speech. I chose to squander this wonderful opportunity by adorning my hat with the likeness of my hero.

#### McKinley Rodriguez Portland, OR

M-Rod — What a terrific story! A tale like yours is completely unheard of...a MAD reader who graduated high school! They said it'd never happen! Thanks for



proving everyone wrong! Actually, upon rereading your letter, we've noticed that you don't make any mention of actually graduating — so maybe we're jumping the gun here. Either way, nice hat! We hope security was respectful as they ushered you offstage after your "speech." —Ed.

### MAD AT THE SAN DIEGO COMIC-CON

If you were lucky enough to attend the San Diego Comic-Con from July 24-27, then maybe you were also lucky enough to avoid anything MAD-related while you were there! However, whatever your degree of luckitude, here are some "highlights" from the Con, including the MAD panel (featuring, left to right: MAD staffers John Ficarra, Ryan Flanders and Sam Viviano; MAD contributors Sergio Aragonés, Tom Richmond, David Shayne, Peter Kuper, and Arnie Kogen!)



### **BLOGGING UP THE WORKS**

I'm thinkin' you really are idiots for dropping "Planet Tad." What's wrong with you people? (Just askin' about issue #529.) I've read your mag for years. My sons have read your mag for years. My grandsons have read your mag for years. And out of all of us, two can't believe you dropped "Planet Tad." (I realize that isn't a large percentage, but it's big to us...well, to two of us.) Please bring "Tad" back.

Joann Taylor • St. Clair Shores, MI

Tinker, Taylor, Soldier, Spy — If the Family Taylor was disappointed to not see "Planet Tad" in MAD #529, think about how we felt! The deadline for "Tad" came and went with nary a word from its writer, Tim Carvell — and when we finally got a hold of him, all we got was a lame excuse that he'd been binge-watching Last Week Tonight with John Oliver and lost track of time. We were so steamed that we were about to give Tim the ax — when, lo and behold, your groveling little missive landed on our desk. So "Tad" is back — but we're just about through with Carvell, the lazy good-for-nothing. One more missed deadline and he's your responsibility, Joann! If you want "Planet Tad" so badly, YOU can be his editor! Good luck wrangling installments from him — and be careful what you wish for! —Ed.

### ENVELOPE OF THE MONTH



Minda Bedogne, Los Angeles, CA

### AND A CHILD SHALL MISLEAD THEM



Recently I introduced my 10-year-old brother to the best magazine I've ever read: MAD. But one day he said something purely idiotic: "MAD is speaking to the next generation." I have one question, why does everyone think that MAD is a magazine for 12-year-old boys? I'm 13 and a GIRL. I find MAD rather funny.

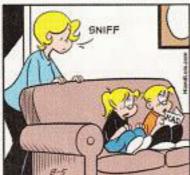
Angeliah Easton · Shelton, WA

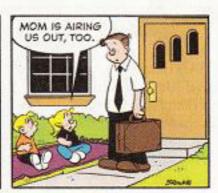
Peace in the Middle Easton — We're thrilled that you consider MAD to be funny and the best magazine you've ever read — no doubt edging out such kid-mag stalwarts as Highlights, Ranger Rick and Foreign Policy — but we're surprised that you called your brother's comments "purely idiotic." Here at MAD, we have a unique opportunity to speak for all generations and all genders. So while 12-year-old boys do indeed enjoy MAD, there's no reason that a 13-year-old girl can't love it as well. To truly appreciate MAD, all you need is \$5.99 (CHEAP!) and (like us) the IQ of a boiled yam. —Ed.

### **HI AND LOW-POINTS**

Eagle-eyed comic strip fans noticed an appearance by MAD in the August 5th edition of "Hi and Lois"! Maybe it's us, but we couldn't get past the disturbing subtext that Dot and Ditto are foul-smelling, neglected children whose unbalanced mother is clearly unfit to parent...but that's what's great about the strip — it's got layers! —Ed.







### ART HISTORY CORPSE

Two years ago I began reading MAD after a hiatus of some 30-odd years (some of these years were very odd). While your writing is as sharp and funny as ever, the quality of your artwork has sadly deteriorated. Are you running a jobs program for arts school dropouts? My mom once told me that artists didn't learn to draw the human figure accurately until they began dissecting cadavers. How about MAD illustrators? Are you up for a late-night field trip to the county morgue?

Tracy Figueira • Tyler, TX

Tricks of the Tracy — We shared your letter with our artists, and they weren't too flattered by your constructive criticism. However, they were REALLY excited about your cadaver-dissecting idea! Just let them know what drawer your corpse will be in and they'll be there with bells on! —Ed.

### **TOUR GUISE**

Recently The National Cartoonists Society took part in a USO tour of Afghanistan — and among those who elbowed their way onto this seemingly prestigious outing were MAD's own Sam Viviano and Tom Richmond! We've always had the utmost

respect for the men and women in our armed forces — but knowing that they endured a weeklong visit with these two chowder-pots? Well, our admiration for them has reached all-new levels!





Tom Richmond wearing a hat that may as well say "Shoot mer



Tom and Sam getting ready to ride a helicopter (or enter the office of Senior Editor Charlie Kadau)



Tom, Sam, Richard Kirkman, Jeff Keane, Mike Peters and Jeff Bacon posing for what we assume is a direct-to-DVD Expendables sequel



Tom draws a caricature of a serviceman



Just when it seemed Washington couldn't get any more idiotic comes...



FEATURING MAD'S BEST ON D.C.'S WORST!

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### ters and comatoes



### AN UPDATE THAT WILL LIVE IN INFAMY

In your MAD book, Totally Useless MAD, "The MAD Hate Book," page 80, 17th panel, I see that you updated the original "Ursula Andress" by replacing her with "Bar Rafaeli." Okay. But in Disturbingly Awful MAD, "The MAD Hate Book Vol. 2," page 25, 3rd panel, you left the price of a gallon of gas on the pump at 25 2/3 cents a gallon. You also have U.S. postage as five cents. What's going on here?

### M.A. Duplessis · Yreka, CA

Oh, Duplessis You'll Go! — In your letter in MAD #530, page 4, 1st paragraph, 4th sentence, you raise an interesting question. When we reprint old material, we sometimes update the references so that readers will be able to get the joke. For example, instead of a fat joke about Roseanne Barr, we might change it to be about Melissa McCarthy. Or for a joke about Dan Quayle being a dumb politician, we might alter it to be about Sarah Palin.

And if we were running an old joke about an obnoxious, nit-picking bore, we'd update it to be about M.A. Duplessis! See? Everyone would know exactly who we were talking about!

Thanks for reading — and keep buying those books! —Ed.

### AN INTERN FOR THE WORSE

We'd like to take this opportunity to thank MAD's 2014 Summer Interns, Russel Kogan and Conrad Groth! And to think they said it was a "thankless job"! Repeatedly, Like, on a daily basis. Anyway, thank you, fellas — we'll think of you every single time we read this feature and see your pictures and names.

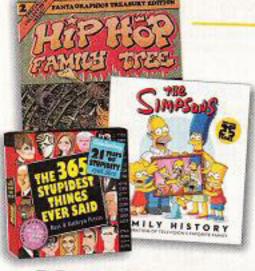




### LIKE MAD ON FACEBOOK!

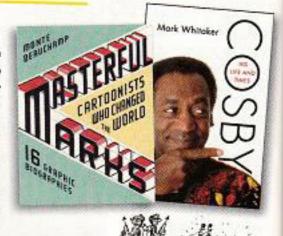
We're on Facebook! You should go there and "Like" us. Go on... it'll make you feel good about the Internet!





### READER ALERT

If your letter was printed, oh lordy-loo are you in for some good news! You'll be receiving a copy of Cosby: His Life and Times by Mark Whitaker and Masterful Marks: Cartoonists Who Changed the World, courtesy of our pals at Simon & Schuster; The 365 Stupidest Things Ever Said page-a-day calendar from our chums at Workman Publishing Company (PageADay.com); The Simpsons Family History from our buds at Abrams Books; and Hip Hop Family Tree Book 2: 1981-1983 by Ed Piskor, courtesy of our amigos at Fantagraphics! Not a bad haul for a bunch of silly scribbling, eh? Write to us and reap the benefits!



### MAD

### MAD #531 is on sale Decembe

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Charlie Kadau, Joe Raiola Senior Editors Dave Croatto Editor Jacob Lambert Associate Editor

### ART DEPARTMENT

Sam Viviano VP – Art & Design Ryan Flanders Associate Art Director Lana Limón Production Artist

Contributing Artists And Writers The Usual Gang of Idiots

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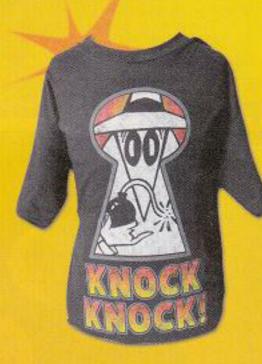
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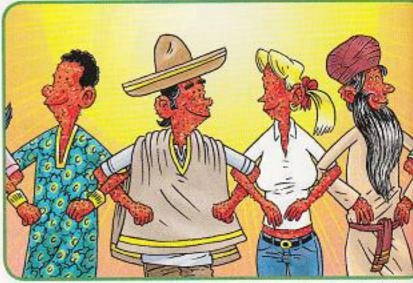
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### THe Fundalin

### THE EXTREMELY SUNNY SIDE OF GLOBAL WARMING



If you live anywhere near a coastal city, there'll be no need to install a pricey pool in your backyard.



People will no longer be judged by the color of their skin, since everyone will have the same bright red, blistery hue.



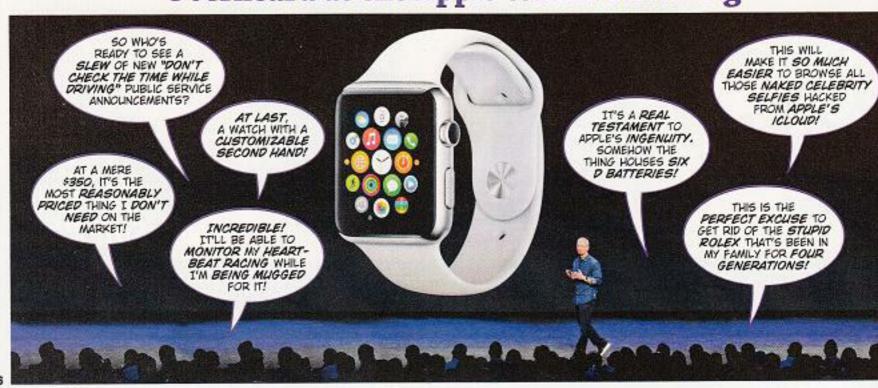
Your chances of being attacked by a polar bear will be reduced to zero.



The tired, overused phrase, "It's not the heat, it's the humidity," will be replaced with something fresher.

Writer: Mike Morse Artist: John Kerschbaum

### Overheard at the Apple Watch Unveiling



### pages

### The Fast 5 MAD'S GUIDE TO LEADING A MORE SPIRITUAL LIFE

- 1 Get in touch with your soul. If you can't find it, don't worry lots of people don't have souls, and they seem to be enjoying life just fine
- 2 Go into the forest and commune with the wonder of nature but keep a rifle handy in case nature doesn't feel the same way about you
- 3 Asia is known for spirituality, so take up Eastern practices, such as yoga, the Kama Sutra, Gangnam Style and jiu-jitsu
- Pay close attention to what your dreams are telling you, except maybe for those really weird ones where you're naked and being chased down the street by a two-headed ogre with a rutabaga
- 5 You don't even have to travel abroad to become more spiritual. States like Colorado and Washington have recently made "spiritual journeys" much easier, if you catch our meaning

Writer: Jeff Kruse Artist: Hermann Mejia





### THE FUNDALINI PAGES

### **RESULTS OF THE** NDALINI READERS' POLL

Of the 1,239 who responded:

 32% said they prefer real whipped cream to Cool Whip because it tastes better. (39% said they prefer it because it doesn't stain the leather restraints.)

 24% said they would not buy a new flat-screen TV because they like the shows they see on their old TVs.

 38% said they would definitely believe in God if they won the lottery.

 42% said dinner and a movie should not automatically lead to sex. (Couples should leave the theatre first.)

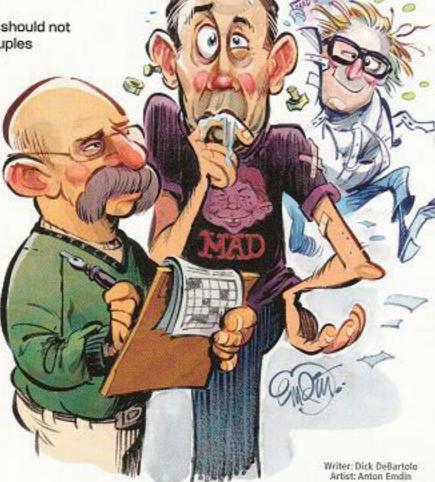
 19% said "gay marriage" was basically wrong because it excludes straight people.

 9% said they had a fear of flying, especially in airplanes.

 Given a choice between Lincoln, Gandhi and Mother Teresa, 87% said the person they most admired was Gandhi. (In a weird statistical anomaly, however, only 2.4% of those responding knew who Gandhi was.)

 97% said the NSA is full of wonderful, hard-working, attractive, thoughtful, kind, patriotic employees who would never spy on them.

 .003% said they were very interested in learning the final results of this poll.



**Nike T-Shirts** We'd Like to Se

> THIS SHIRT MADE BY AN INDONESIAN 8-YEAR-OLD

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Writer: Kenny Keil

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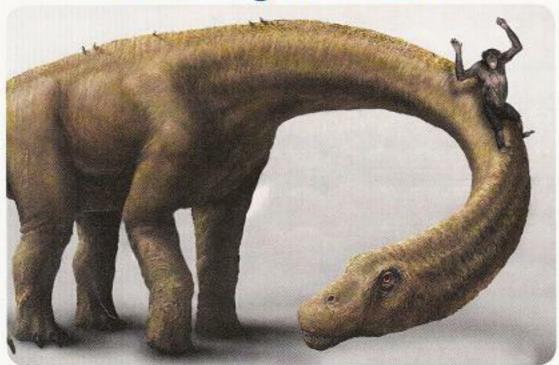
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### THE FUNDALINI PAGES

Monkeys are Always Funny: Dreadnaughtus Edition



Monkey: Isselee | Dreamstime.com

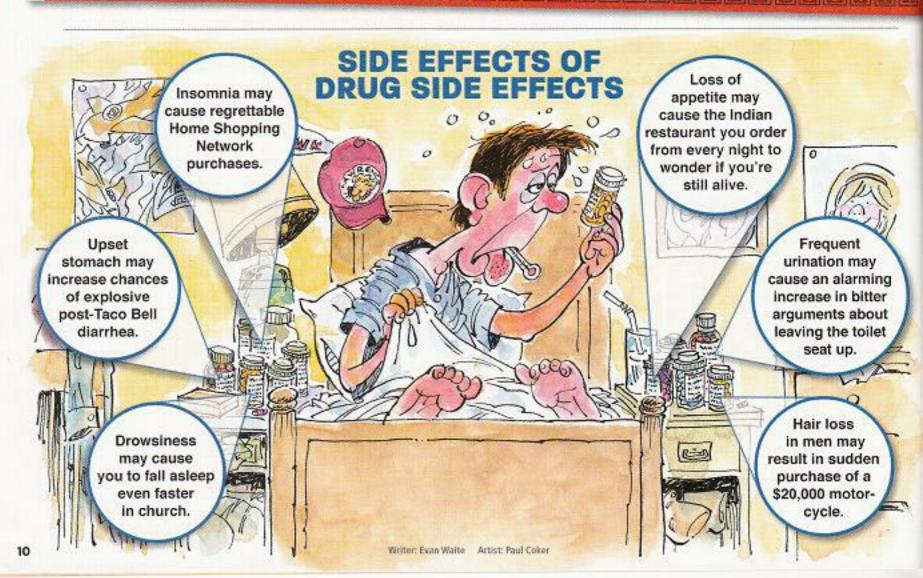
### **Pull My Cheney**



"FIRST OF ALL, IT'S NOT A "METEOR"—
IT'S A "METEORITE." Writer and A

### Chopsticks Wrapper Instructions We'd Like to See

GRANT CONTROL OF THE STATE OF T DEARN 2. Tuck first chopstick 3. Shakily pick up greasy 4: Embarrassedly HOW TO USE sticks apart, pick under thomb: dumpling, curse ask smirking. ensuing splinters add second chapstick; as it falls onto waiter to give CHOPSTICKS holding it like a pencil thort forth fillby carpet \_\_ you a fork 



### The Faster 5 SIGNS THAT YOU'RE TOO OLD TO STILL BE LIVING WITH YOUR PARENTS

- You and your dad begin getting your prostate exam reminders in the mail on the same day.
- 2 No one in the house knows how to work the new Blu-ray player.
- 3 They allow you to grow your hair long, as that's the only way your comb-over will work.
- 4 You no longer have a curfew, but are usually asleep by 9:30 regardless.
- 5 There's a rule about no loud music at night, but it's your rule, not theirs.

Writer: Kit Lively Artist: Teresa Burns Parkhurst

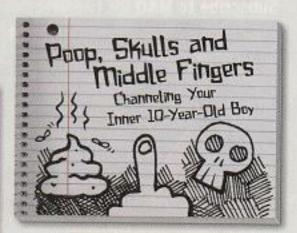


### THE WORLD OF CARTOONING



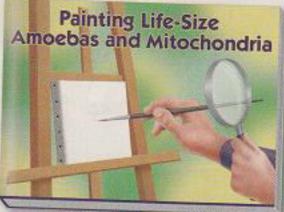
### Art Instruction Books We Don't Recommend

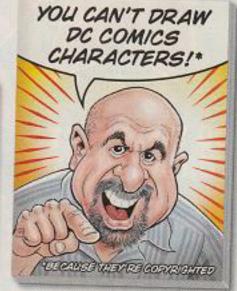
















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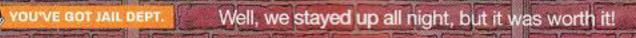
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HERE'S ANOTHER POINT!

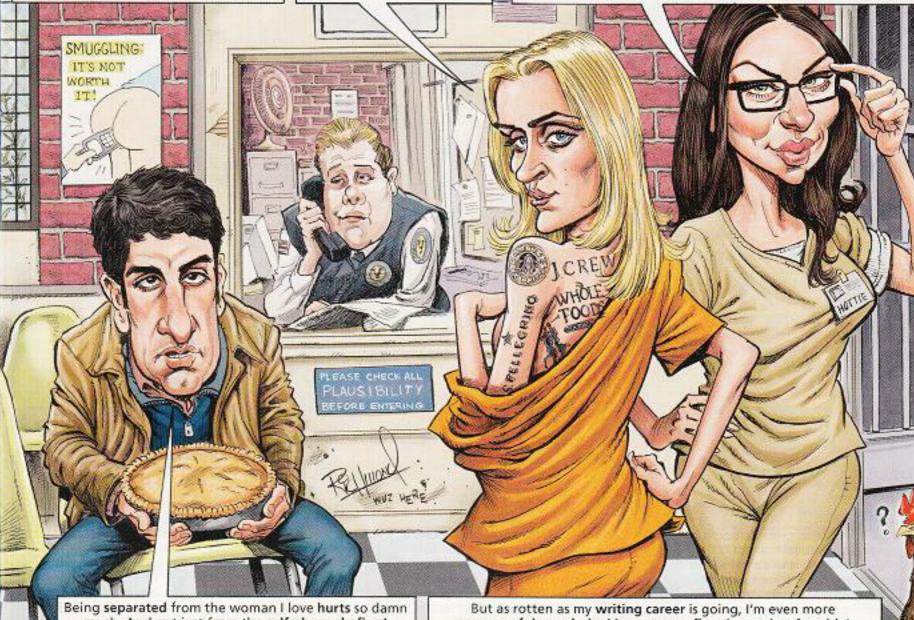
print subscribers now get a FREE DIGITAL SUBSCRIPTION to MAD for their iPad!



### CANGE Sinew Line

Outside, I'm Hyper Chaplips, a punchably privileged princess whose cushy life marketing boutique soaps is turned upside down by a belated jail sentence. Ten years ago, I got involved in an ecstasy-fueled, psychologically manipulative, experimental lesbian relationship with an emotionally unstable heroin smuggler, and personally trafficked millions in drug money from Nigeria and Cambodia. Like I told the judge, I'll never make that particular and specific mistake again! Had I known I would be giving up my personal identity for a life under lock and key, being controlled by arbitrary rules and irrational power trips, I could've just married Tom Cruise! But my past has caught up with me. Now I know I have to get tough or die. Taken care of! I've already got my first prison tats!

The aforementioned lesbian drug smuggler is me, Galsex Gloss! I lured Hyper into a whirlwind of drugs, glitz and transcontinental smirking. She flipped for my Marlene Dietrich aquiline eyebrows, combined with Thelma Ritter's blunt and sassy attitude. Sure, most of you have never heard of either of them, but trust me, all our gay viewers just went berserk! I've only been locked up in here for two months, but I've already fallen into two steamy girl-girl relationships. Some people look at prison as punishment. I consider it speed dating! This morning, Hyper found out that I was the one who ratted her out to the feds and sent her to prison. At lunch, she was a bit abrupt with me. Jeez, some people hold a grudge!



Being separated from the woman I love hurts so damn much. And not just from the self-abuse chafing! I'm stuck out here, a freelance writer getting nowhere trying to pitch a whiny article about my girlfriend to The New York Times! Hyper's wondering whether I'll still be around in 18 months...I'm wondering the same thing about The New York Times!

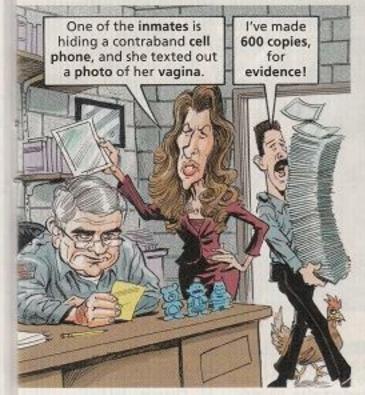
But as rotten as my writing career is going, I'm even more unsuccessful as a dude. My gorgeous fiancée was hot for girls! Imagine the possibilities! But I'm such a bready nebbish, I could never figure out how to parlay Hyper's capricious libido into a three-way. Not even with Hyper's best friend, Polyp. Although she's a new mother who's been emotionally abandoned...hmmm. wonder if I could teach the kid to talk dirty over the baby monitor...!











Yes, Hyper, it was my sealed testimony that convicted you. But your problem is that you're self-absorbed and selfish! Your problem is you're a fickle, untrustworthy emotional tourist! Your problem is you're a bad person who thinks she's a good person!

MY problem is, that's EXACTLY the tangled rat's nest of psychological issues that turns me on! Now are you ready to bury our fundamental unsuitability underneath yet another explosion of impulsive makeup sex?

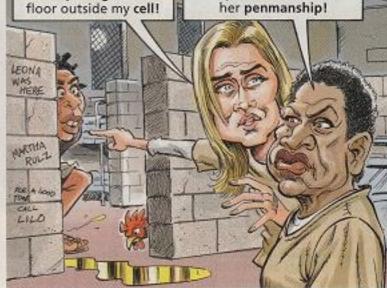


This is your release party cupcake!
To sculpt the candle, we all pitched in and saved our earwax for the last month!

How depressing. This is the saddest party I've ever been to, second only to the red carpet Hollywood premiere for Ender's Game! Turn off that lesbian music! That had better not be a lesbian cupcake! Am I going crazy, or did I say NO lesbian napkins? And why do I keep hearing the word "lesbian"? Lazy Eyes has been stalking me, asking to be my prison wife! But I said no! And now she's peeing on the floor outside my cell!

If you'll look more closely, she's actually spelling out "Be My Valentine"! It's insane and disgusting, but you have to admire her penmanship!





Guess who's back behind bars?

I just couldn't make it on the outside.
Somehow I struggled, gave up,
violated my parole, got arrested,
went through the legal system,
was resentenced and returned back
to the identical wing of the same
prison. Whew! What a month!

Makes sense to me! This is the only prison where they lock up a mother together with her daughter, or a defendant and the co-conspirator she named in her trial! The Justice Department opposes it, but they were overruled by the Writers Guild!

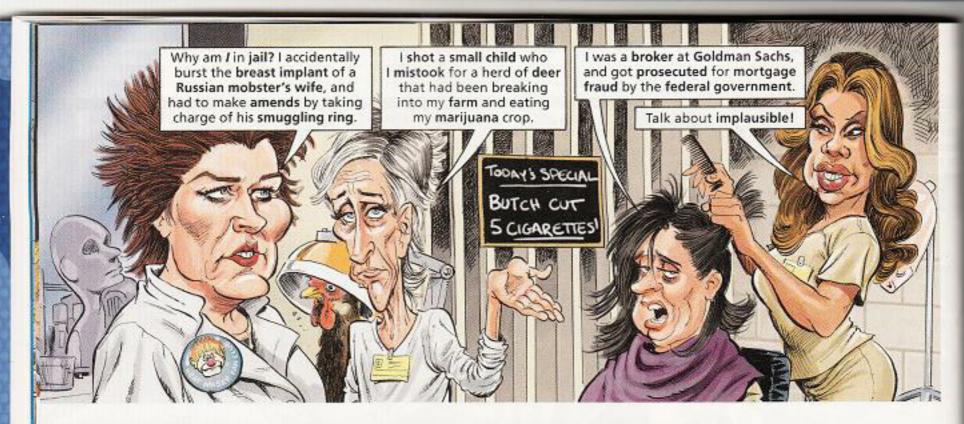


Here in the tool shop, as part of your rehabilitation, you women will learn valuable job skills. Skills that you can take with you to lead productive lives. Each of you has been given a single wire, and a pair of wire cutters.

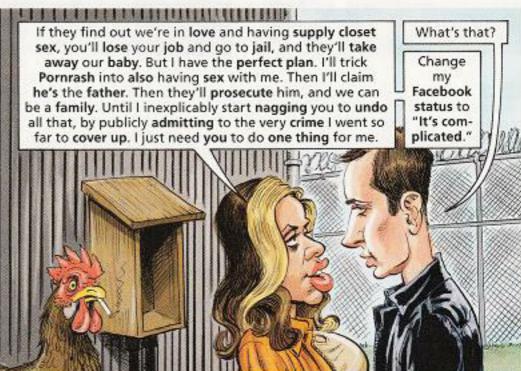
What are we supposed to do with them? how to make lots of little pieces of wire!

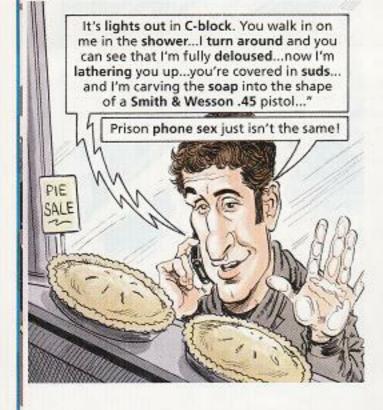
You learn











I understand that you talked about your fiancée on NPR, and five of the black women from your fiancée's prison listened to the broadcast. Which brought the total of black NPR listeners to five! I'd like you to write about her for The New York Times.

Too bad. I was Write about the thinking of giving nightmare Hyper you a cover story is going through? in the Sunday I'm sorry, but I magazine. cannot exploit my fiancée for personal gain.

Do you prefer it in Courier or Helvetica?







Lost children! Listen to me! I have been imbued by the same God who made the whale swallow Jonah Hill! And on that holiest day, an angel told Noah to build his ark. It was an ark angel! And lo, it came to pass that all the animals of the world rode on that ark, except for termites and woodpeckers. They were invented later, because that's just logic. Also, the other reindeers wouldn't let Rudolph join them. So he flew to the North Pole. The water level can't reach that high up there. Amen!

I possess the holy power to heal with a touch! I can heal back pain, tumors, sexual orientation, joint damage... anything but my own teeth!





This sewer in my new greenhouse is the key to our new smuggling operation. We pay for contraband, my sons sneak it in through the tunnel, and the prisoners pay us in postage stamps. It's the perfect plan! Are there any questions?

What are we going to do with a pile of postage stamps? Why would we risk extra years on our prison sentences for stamps? How will your sons find the other end of this particular sewer, remove the pipes, widen the tunnel, and not get noticed?

EN 18130



We're protesting the quality of life in Bitchfilled Prison! Senile women pushed out to die! Inadequate health care! Expired food, tainted water, inhumane punishments! Why do you treat us like this?

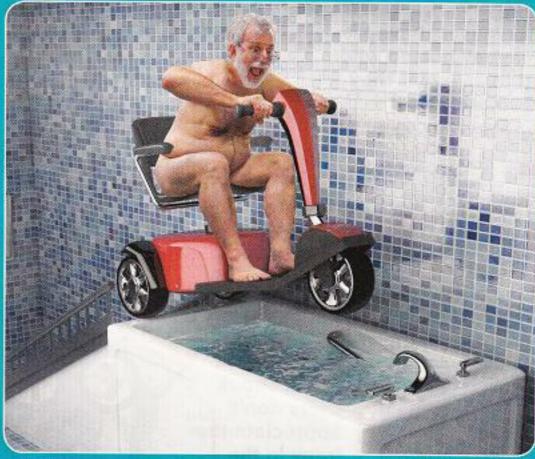
We had no choice! Last year, they forced us to upgrade the conditions!





Desperately cling to your waning independence while compromising the structural integrity of your bathroom

Models To Fit Every Lifestyle



Ride-In Tub (accommodates most mobility scooters)



Space-Saver Tub/Dishwasher



Tub/Stairlift Combo

Don't give up on personal hygiene just because you can't get in the tub or shower anymore!

Turn your life around with a Prohibitive Cost of Bathing™ Walk-In Tub and soak away your cares — and those big, gnarly scales of dry skin that everyone seems to be aware of but you. (There's a reason "the gang" stopped inviting you to lunch at Cracker Barrel on Wednesdays.) With our unique bathtubs, you can (probably) regain your dignity while losing that smell.

### With every Prohibitive Cost of Bathing™ Walk-In Tub, you get ...

- Professional installation by some third-party contractor in your area who also puts up inflatable bounce houses for children's parties, does on-site auto glass replacement and cabinet re-facing.
- A new Walk-In Tub for as little per month as the amount on that check you get from the government! Additional financing available through AAUGH Reverse Mortgage LLC.
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Ask for our full-color brochure, brimming with seniors in bathrobes and showcasing Walk-In Tubs expertly installed in unrealistic prop bathroom sets constructed specifically to fit our product line perfectly. There is no cost or obligation.\*

\*Our trained sales staff will be using an autodialer to continually call whatever number you give us every night at 6 p.m. long after you're dead and whoever buys your house has had your Walk-In Tub removed.



You remember a time when they didn't have to put "Made in the USA" on anything, because back then, EVERYTHING was made in the USA! But not TODAY! Damn country's going to HELL!

WRITER: SCOTT MAIKO ARTIST: SCOTT BRICHER A MAD AD PARODY

### ZUCKERBERG'S-EYE VIEW DEPT.

Facebook knows everything about you (yes, including the incident that led to the lifetime ban from Build-a-Bear). But how much do YOU know about Facebook? Friendship can't be a oneway street — so brush up with these...

### Fun Face

When it debuted in 2006, Facebook's mobile app finally offered people with phones a way to communicate.



### 2.9 million

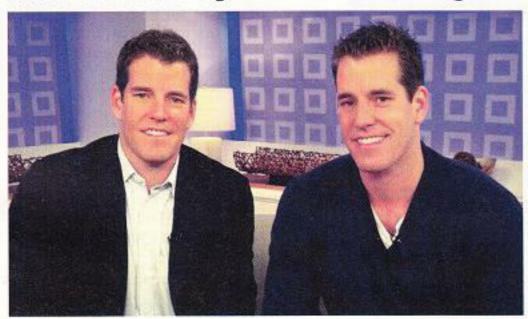
Facebook users have hit the "Maybe" button when invited to an event they had absolutely no intention of ever attending.



Facebook's "Places" feature gives people all of the information they need to avoid y



Because they're good-looking and rich, no one cares that the Winklevoss twins were screwed by Mark Zuckerberg.



of Facebook users don't

users don't appreciate the irony in the phrase "Facebook Privacy Policy."



### 3.2 million

users have had their Facebook account suspended at least once for posting a photo of their genitals "wearing" novelty glasses.

WRITERS: FRANK SANTOPADRE & EVAN WAITE ARTIST: JOHN MARTZ

BABY ALFRED PAINTING: RICHARD WILLIAMS SANDWICH: CHARLES BRUTLAG | DREAMSTIME.COM BRAIN: IEVGEN SOLOVIOV | DREAMSTIME.COM

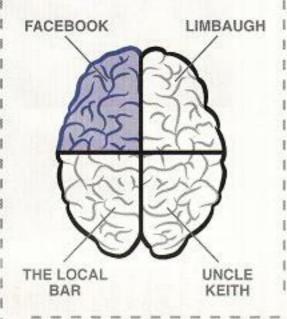


WHEN THE MOVI
THE SOCIAL
NETWOR
BECAME A BOX OFFICE
HIT, IT PROVED THA
MILLIONS
OF PEOPLI
WERE WILLING TO
STOP USING FACEBOOK
TO SEE A MOVI
ABOUT FACEBOOK

## book Facts

23%

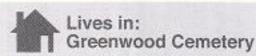
of Americans use Facebook as their primary source of factually inaccurate news.



Before Facebook, no one ever thought of calling a picture of a turkey sandwich "content."



4% of Facebook users are dead and no one knows how to take their pages down.



Facebook has single-handedly made wishing someone "Happy Birthday" totally meaningless.



The average married male user spends 8.9 hours a month on Facebook and only 3.2 hours on his wife.





99%

of Facebook users have posted something in the last week that makes them unelectable for public office.



6.7 million

people have posted a flattering comment about a baby photo that they actually thought was hideous.



While you were reading this, Facebook just sold your personal information to an overseas company that markets flame-retardant dishtowels.

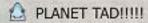


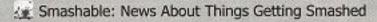


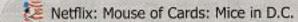


















Q http://www.planettad.com/profile/10-2014







### PLANET TAD!!!!!

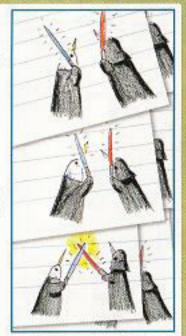
»AGE (IN MILLENNIA): .014 »FAVORITE SYNONYM FOR PANCAKES: FLAPJACKS

#### **OCTOBER 2, 2014**

Today I made a little animated movie in the margins of my notebook. showing two narwhals re-enacting the lightsaber battle from the end of "Star Wars".

I showed it to my mom, and she said, "Wow. Where did you find the time to do this?" And I said, "During my second study hall." And she said, "Wait: Why do you have two study halls? That shouldn't be."

Uh-oh.



#### **OCTOBER 3, 2014**

My mom called the school today and found out that I have two study halls because of a scheduling mix-up — I was supposed to be enrolled in an arts class, and they forgot to put me in one. Most of the classes are full, so I had to choose between just two options: Chorus, or Industrial Arts, which is just a fancy way of saying "wood shop".

My first thought was Chorus, because it seems pretty easy to sing. But then I went and talked to Mrs. Goldberg, the Chorus teacher, and she had me sing a little for her, to figure out what sort of singer I was. And after listening to me, she said, "Oh! You have such a beautiful, high voice! That's wonderful — we could use another soprano!"

There are a lot of things I could live down at school. But being a soprano in the chorus isn't one of them. So, I guess Industrial Arts it is. I figure it'll be easy for one thing, I can assemble IKEA furniture pretty well, and I figure wood shop can't be too different from that. Plus, it's the favorite class of Doug Spivak, who's the least smart kid in our class. (He once cried when he found out that Jurassic Park wasn't a place you could actually go and visit. This was last year.)



### LATEST TWEETS



PLANET TAD @PlanetTad Why do we say "eleven" and "twelve" and not "oneteen" and "twoteen"?



PLANET TAD @PlanetTad

I wonder if there's a family out there with members named Grammy, Oscar, Emmy and Tony. There has to be, right?



PLANET TAD @PlanetTad

I don't get the saying "don't put all your eggs in one basket". A basket seems like a really good place to put all your eggs.



PLANET TAD @PlanetTad

The name "Wonder Woman" would be a good name for a superheroine who just asks questions about things.





**FAVORITE SPORTS** 

### **OCTOBER 6, 2014**

Today was my first day of wood shop. My teacher's name is Mr. Petersen, and he's sort of scary — he's got a beard and a bunch of tattoos and I don't think he ever smiles. He took scary - he's got a beard and a bunch of tattoos and I don't think he ever smiles. He took me aside at the start of class and said, "Look, you're joining late, so I'll just fill you in: The first rule of my wood shop is, no horsing around. The second rule of my wood shop is, no horsing around. The third rule of my wood shop is, no horsing around. The fourth rule of my wood shop is-" And without even thinking, I said, "No horsing around?" And he looked superannoyed and said, "No. The fourth rule is, always ask permission before using the jigsaw."

He then listed a bunch more rules, but by that time, I kind of stopped paying attention, because I just kept wondering: Why is "horsing around" shorthand for "goofing off"? Because

#### **OCTOBER 7, 2014**

I don't think Mr. Petersen likes me very much. Today in wood shop, he was telling everyone about different types of tools, and when he was talking about screwdrivers, Doug Spivak said, "Well, I'll try not to screw my project up!", and Mr. Petersen laughed and said, "Good one, Doug."

But then, a little later, he was showing us the awl, and I said, "Wow, I really look forward to giving my next project my awl!" And he just sort of stared at me, not smiling. And I said, "It's a joke. Because 'awl' sounds like 'all'." And he said, "I know."

So, in wood shop, we're starting on our first project: Making a birdhouse.

It's really embarrassing when Doug Spivak has to come over and fix your mistakes.

#### **OCTOBER 9, 2014**

Mr. Petersen took away my "questionasking privileges" in wood shop today. In my defense, I think it's totally fair to ask why sawdust is called "sawdust", because the dust doesn't come from the saw, it comes from the wood. It should be called "plankdust".

Rollerball



Whackbat



**BASEketball** 



43-Man Squamish



### **OCTOBER 15, 2014**

Doug, come over and help me fix this."

**OCTOBER 13, 2014** 

Got sent to the principal today by Mr. Petersen. It wasn't my fault. He was talking about the importance of craftsmanship, and to illustrate it, he was telling us about how he once made a stool. And I remembered that "stool" is another way of saying "poop", which kind of cracked me up. And I tried keeping it together, but after about ten minutes of listening to him talk about how he was really proud of his stool, and how the important thing about a stool is its firmness and durability, and that a good stool should have a glossy finish and no nails poking out of it, I just lost it.

He made me leave, and as I left, I saw Doug Spivak shaking his head, and I had a horrible realization: I'm the Doug Spivak of wood shop.

### OCTOBER 23, 2014

We started by nailing two boards together, which seemed really simple — I did it in, like, two seconds, and hammered them together

a little extra just to make sure they wouldn't come apart. Mr. Petersen came around the room and checked our work, and when he got to me, he frowned and said, "Do me a favor. Pick that up and show it to me." And I said, "Okay!" And that's when I realized I'd nailed both pieces of wood to the table. I said, "I'm sorry. I'll take them apart." And Mr. Petersen said, "No, you've done enough already.

> I've been working on my birdhouse for a week and I can't get it to look right. Nailing things together is a lot harder than it looks. I wouldn't even call what



I've made a birdhouse. It's, like, a birdshack.

I don't even know why we're being forced to make birdhouses. If I ever needed a birdhouse. I'd just go buy one in a store.

Hang on. I just had an idea.



Orphan

Black

Blacklist



Black Widow

### OCTOBER 24, 2014



Did you know you could buy a birdhouse at Target for \$5 that looks exactly like the one we're supposed to be making?

### OCTOBER 25, 2014



Well, I have bad news and good news. The bad news is, Mr. Petersen figured it out right away. When he came around to grade our birdhouses, he barely even looked at mine and said, "Nice try."

I said, "How'd you know?" And he said, "Well, this is made out of cedar, and you were only given pine. And the edges are beveled, which I haven't shown you how to do yet. Plus, the joints are glued, instead of nailed. And this is covered with a commercial-grade lacquer." And I said, "You could tell all that just by looking at it?" And he said, "Yep. Also, you left the price tag on the bottom." I asked if he was going to turn me in to the principal, and he said, "No. Honestly, catching someone cheating at wood shop is just too sad to even report. Just...just go."

Anyway. If anyone wants to see me sing with the chorus, we're having a concert next Wednesday. I've been given a big solo. It's "I Am Woman".

### DISLIKES







Black Licorice

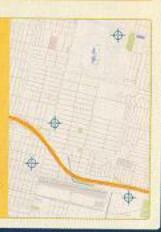
Black Eyed Peas

Black Mold

### PLACES

#### Tad visited:

- Home
- Shop Class
- Target
- Gymboree (with little sister, against his will)



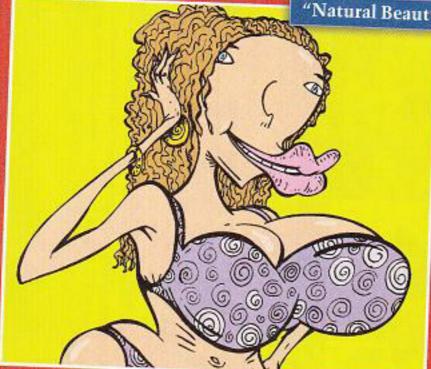


The English language is constantly evolving — and that means some phrases become extinct! For example, when was the last time someone mentioned a "dial-up modem" or "corporal punishment"? Yes, we just mentioned them, but you get the idea, so just shut up! Anyway, let's have a moment of silence for...

# Phrases That Left the

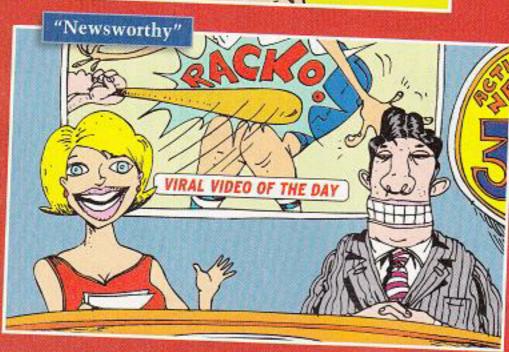


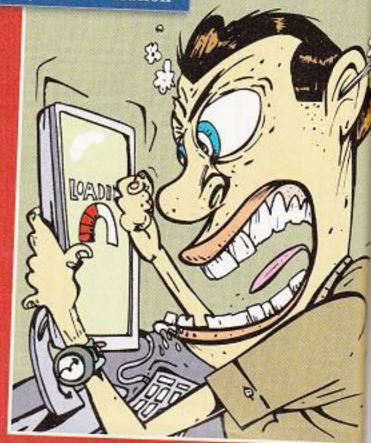


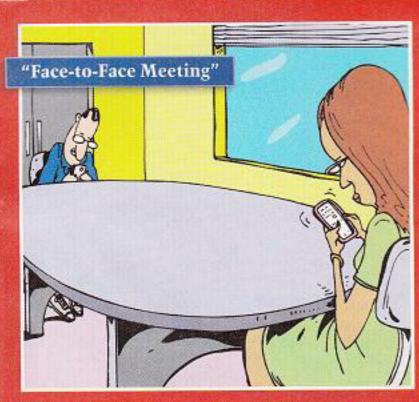


"Delayed Gratification"

"Work Space"

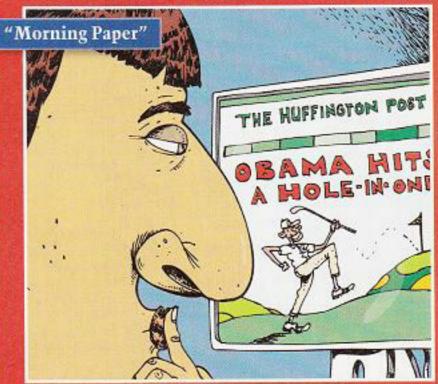




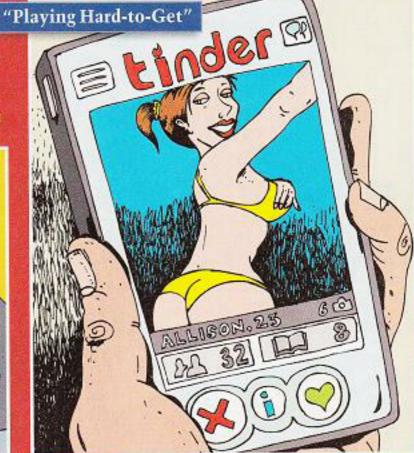
















# THE SPECIAL IS ABOUT TO HIT THE FANS!



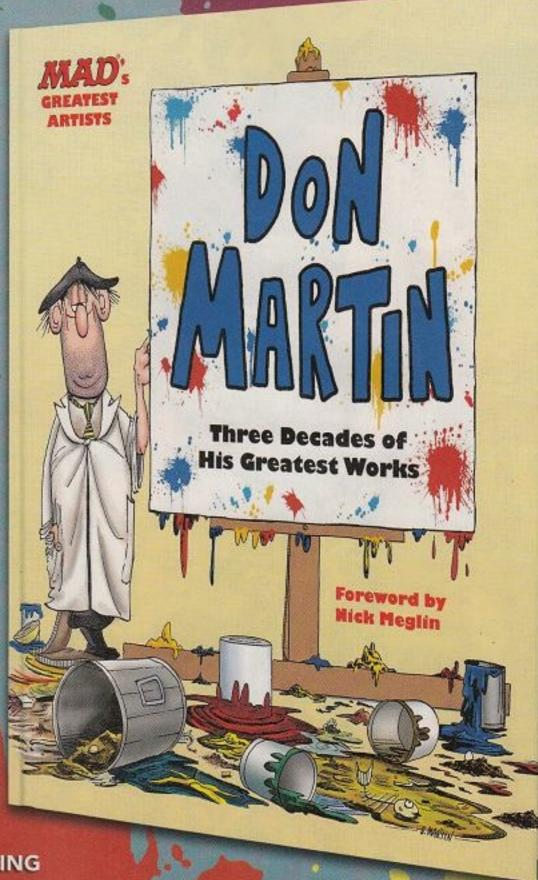


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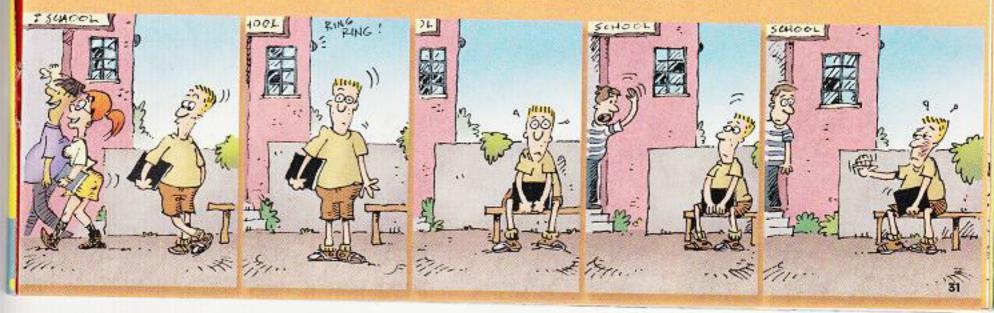


# ANAD LOOK AT PUBERTY



WRITER AND ARTIST: SERGIO ARAGONÉS

COLORIST: TOM LUTH

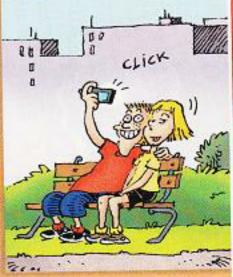
































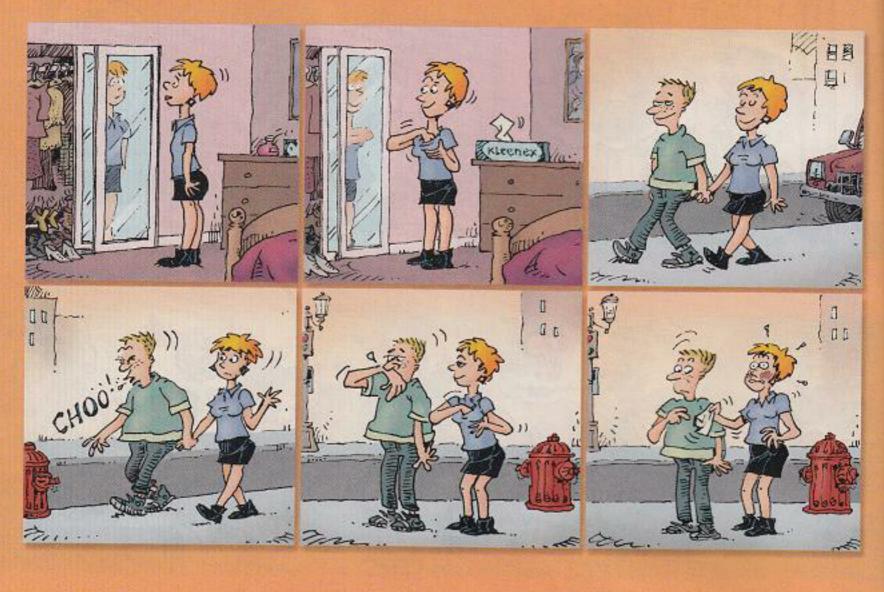




















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NO REST FOR THE LEERY DEPT.

## DOUNTINE MIDDE



...does the sound of a dripping faucet make us realize how effective the old "Chinese Water Torture" must have been.



...do we feel compelled to figure out how rich we'd be today if we'd bought stock in a silicon chip company when it first went into business.



...can minor gas pains, a twinge from an ingrow nose hair and the discomfort of tight pajama pan all seem like the symptoms of some fatal disease

ARTIST: HARRY NOR



...are we certain that we'll lose our minds if we can't remember the name of the little dog in the old "Petticoat Junction" TV show.



...are we seized with inconsolable grief when we recall how our parents wouldn't let us keep that puppy that followed us home back in 1973.



...does it suddenly seem extremely likely that we dropped an important letter down a mail chute that day without putting a stamp or return address on it.

## LEOPTHE MOHT...



...does the cat become so fastidious that she has to kick up her litter box for at least twenty minutes after doing her thing.



...can hunger pangs become so intolerable that we'll eat the only thing left in the house; uncooked spaghetti.



...does it suddenly become apparent that the dress we'd put back on the rack was far more flattering than the one we actually bought and was now being extensively altered.

WRITER: TOM KOCH



...does a car engine idling nearby offer all the proof we need that a burglar has left his motor running while he's ransacking our house.



...does something regularly set off a neighborhood store's burglar alarm that no one ever comes to investigate.



...do we realize that taking the bus home from school that afternoon was a stupid mistake...considering the fact that we'd rode our bike to school that morning.

## ONLY IN THE MIDDLE OF THE MICHIES...



...is it impossible to flush a toilet without having the plug inside the tank get stuck so the water keeps running until we get up again...and remove the lid...and fix it.



...do we suddenly remember all the final exam answers that we should have remembered twelve hours before.



...do we discover that we've carefully hung our new mirror in the perfect spot for the street light to reflect directly in our eyes.



...do we think of the clever retort we should've made to that idiot who screamed at us that afternoon for daydreaming after the light turned green.



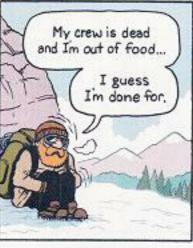
...do we get a stabbing toothache that remains intolerable until two minutes before the dentist's office opens...when it miraculously disappears.



...do we clearly recall giving a restaurant cashier a twenty-dollar billand only getting back change for a ten.



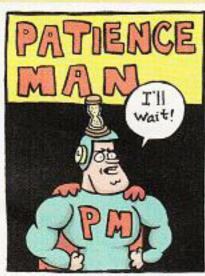






















#### WHAT IF DOG WAS ONE OF US?



I DON'T KNOW... 14 THERE A "APEND'S ALL DAY TAKING DUMB GUIZZES ON PACEBOOK MAN"? BECAUSE THAT TO BE MY GUESS.



I MEAN, SERIOUSLY, ARE WE REALLY SO INSECURE THAT WE LOOK TO ONLINE PERSONALITY QUIZZES ABOUT FICTIONAL CHARACTERS TO TELL US WHO WE ARE? WHATEVER HAPPENED TO JUST ... BEING YOURGELF?

















OH RIGHT, WELL, HEY! NOW YOU CAN HAVE POKER NIGHT AT HOME WITHOUT HER COMPLAINING ANYMORE



PLUS, YOU ALREADY TOOK ALL THE GUYS. WELL, EXCEPT FOR EDGAR, BUT HE'S CRAP AT CARDS.



HAHAHAHA! OH, GOODNESS. I DO TEND TO TAKE THEM ALL DON'T I?



GOOD THING YOU HAVE A DAUGHTER. IM SURE SHE'LL VISIT OFTEN AND TEND TO YOUR NEEDS.



OH RIGHT. THE PILEUP ON HIGHWAY 9. NOT MANY SURVIVORS WERE THERE?



SO, YOU'RE ALONE NOW, AREN'T YOU?



ALONE! YOU HAVE YOUR BEDSIDE NURSE!

HEY! WAIT!

YOU'RE NOT ALL

HOW ARE YOU FEELING TODAY MR...COUGH... COUGH...UGHH UGGGH! URK!



JUST KIDDING! NICE CHATTING WITH YOU, CLARENCE, SEE YOU AROUND!



#### ACE GRAPEFRUITS: TRAVELING PROBLEM SOLVER



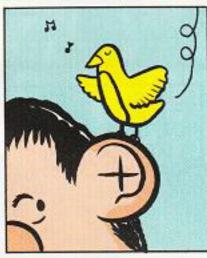
HEEYYY...BUDDY, DID I HEAR THAT YOU'VE GOT WATER IN YOUR EAR??? MY NAME'S ACE, I CAN SOLVE THAT PROBLEM!





## JUST RELAY...

BOX BROWN





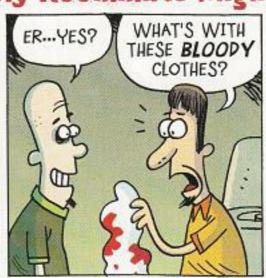


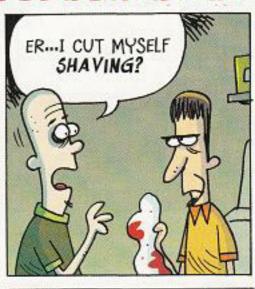


BOX BROWN

### WTF, JEFF? or My Roommate Might Be a Serial Killer















KIT LIVELY & SCOTT NICKEL

## HOW'S MY DRIVING?







BLECCH! NOW INTO THE SEA WITH YA, WHERE YOU'LL BE TORN TO BITS BY THE SHARKS.





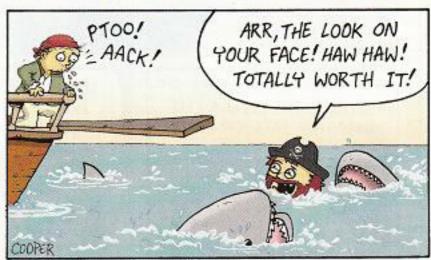








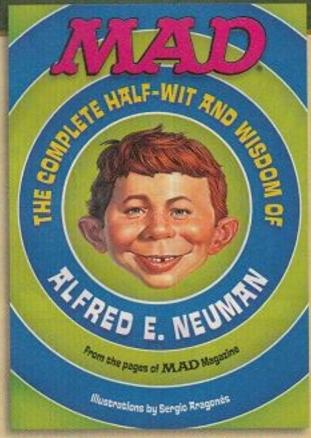




## NEW MAD BOOKS

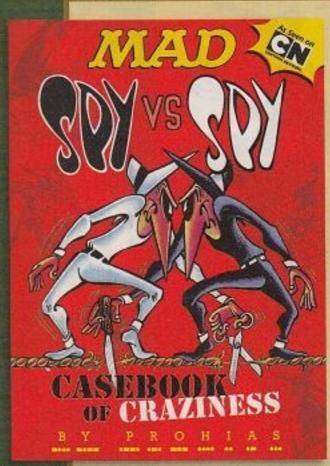
# AVAILABLE EXCLUSIVELY AT BARNES & NOBLE!

We couldn't find anyone else who would sell them!



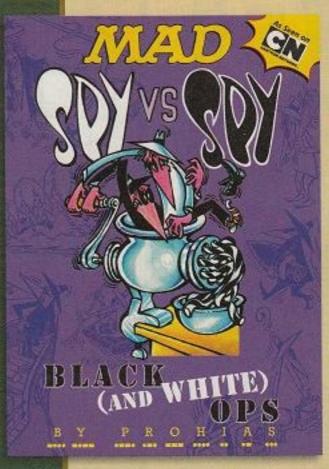
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25 classic
Spy battles
by Antonio
Prohias!
Featuring
electrocutions!
Explosions!
Strangulation
by octopus!
And much,
much more!

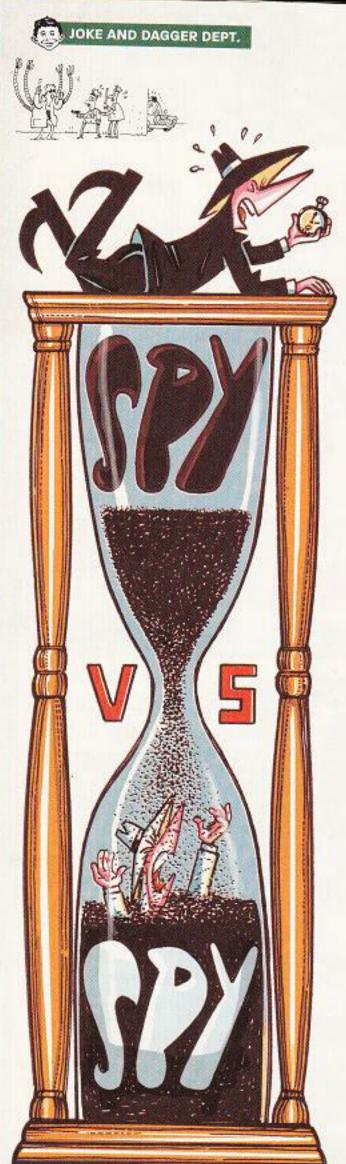


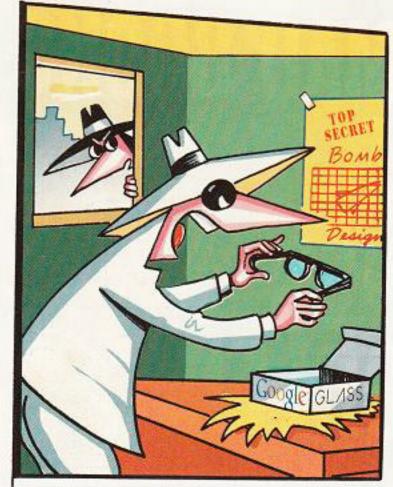
### SPY VS. SPY: BLACK (AND WHITE) OPS

24 more catastrophic elashes by Prohias! With death by shark, cannibal, umbrella bomb and more!

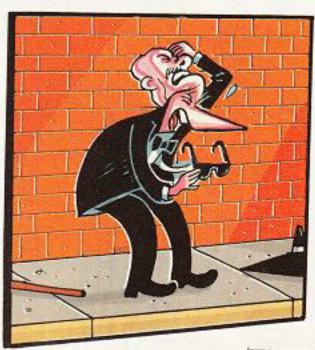
AVAILABLE NOW AT BARNES & NOBLE!

OR, IF YOU'RE TOO ASHAMED TO BE SEEN BUYING THEM IN PUBLIC, ONLINE AT BN.COM!







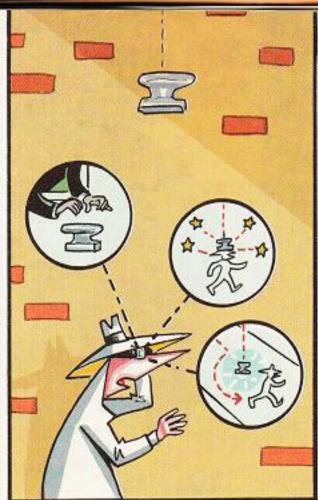






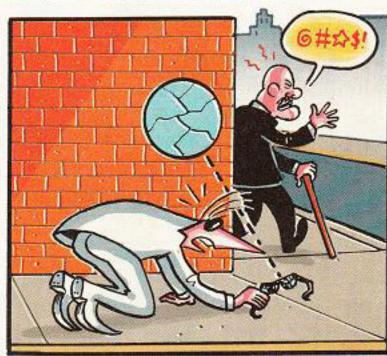
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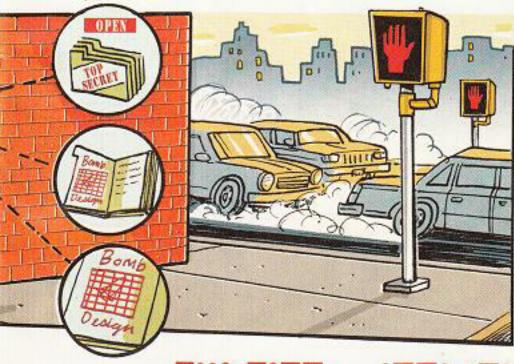




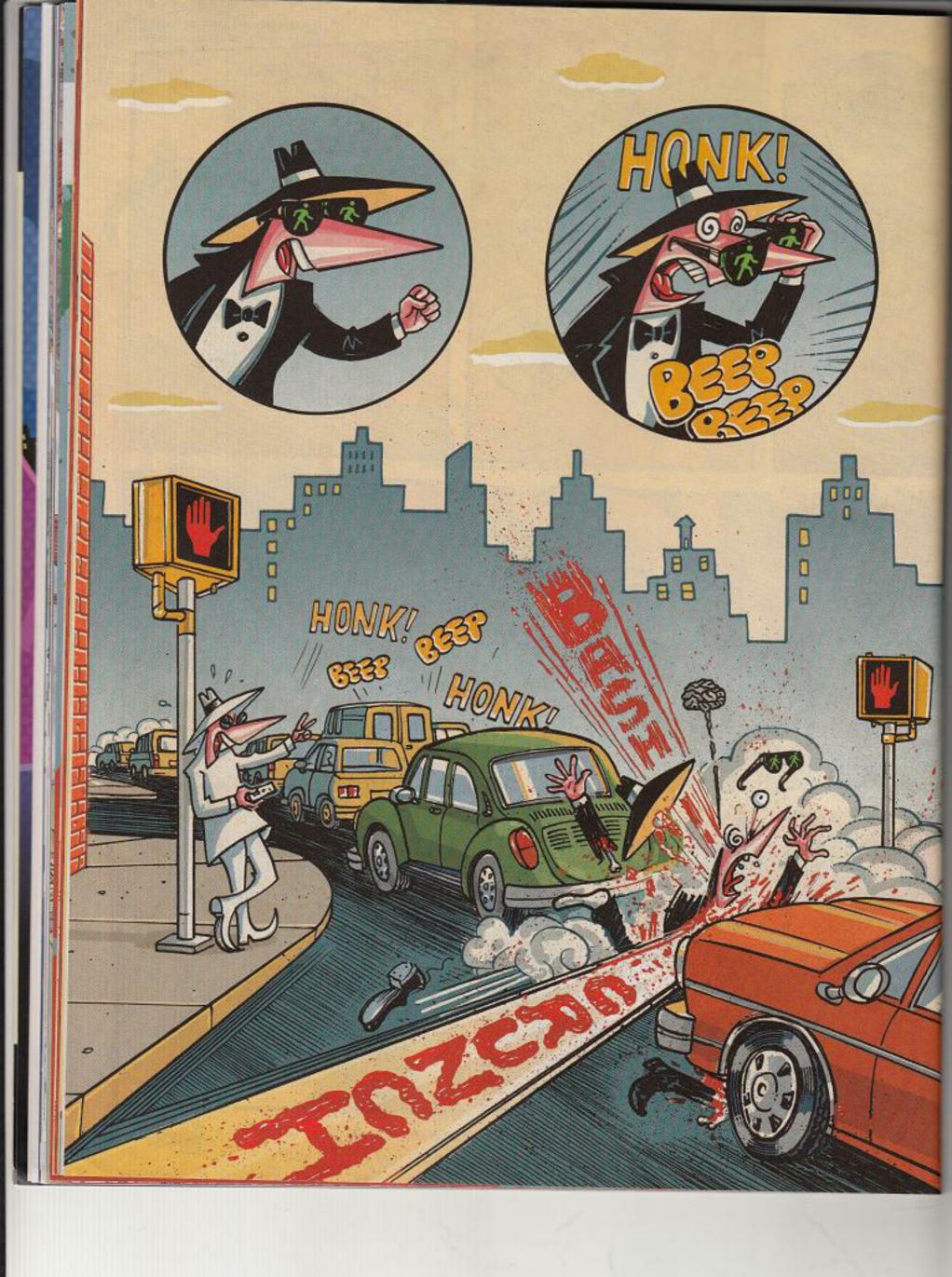






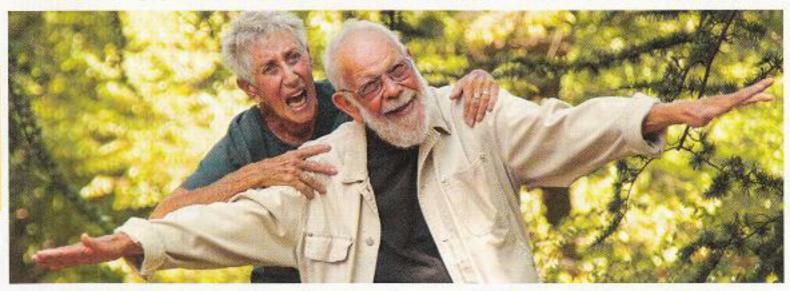






Get the Facts\* About Reverse Mortgages! Call Today!

## With An AAUGH REVERSE MORTGAGE, You Can Live Life Free\* As A Bird



## ...while the equity of your home flies out the window!

A: CS

If You're Over 62, Own Your Home, And Don't Feel The Need To Go Running To Your Kids To Tell Them Every Time You're Being Pressured Into Signing Confusing, Life-Altering Contracts, A Reverse Mortgage Is Definitely' For You!

#### A Reverse Mortgage Can Help\* You...

- ...get one of those walk-in tubs you've been reading about recently
- ...become a real big wheel down at the bingo hall
- ...buy the good cat food for once
- ...pay for nonessential maintenance and unnecessary repairs on your\* home you'd been happy to live without previously, but now are required as part of your reverse mortgage contract to avoid foreclosure on your\* home by us

#### A Reverse Mortgage Provides\* Seniors With Permanent\* Financial Independence\* Simply die before the equity in your home runs out.

#### Our Relentless™ Trained Specialists Can Answer All\* Your Questions

- What is a reverse mortgage?
- · How can I sign up for a reverse mortgage?
- · What happened to that nice weatherman on Channel 9?
- Where are the corresponding footnotes to all these\* worrisome asterisks?

Facts\* about reverse mortgage myths are difficult to follow and confusing.

Don't be misled - the myths about reverse mortgage facts are easy\* to understand.

Reverse Mortgages Are Government-Insured, And Despite Your Cranky, Post-Retirement Paranoia Towards The United States Government, You'll Still Manage To Somehow Justify This As A Positive

Reverse Mortgages Are Endorsed\* By: 70s Sitcom Stars • 80s Romantic Detective Show Stars • 2000s Legal Drama Stars • Vera from Jacaranda Terrace

Call 1-877-AAA-AUGH For Free Information Outlining The Many Benefits To Us In Signing You Up For A Reverse Mortgage



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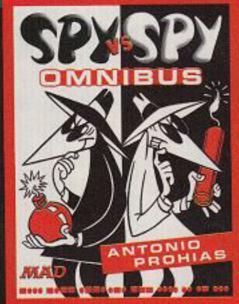
It's the sound your children will make when they find the signed paperwork after you've passed away.





A MAD AD PARODY

## COMPLETE YOUR MAD LIBRARI



MAD'S
GREATEST
ARTISTS:
DAVE BERG

Includes classic "The Lighter Side of..." strips from 1961 to 2002! Spy vs.
Plus Dave's rare early MAD work and MAD artists' tributes to full, o

"The Lighter Side of ..."!

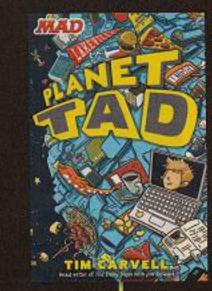
SPY VS. SPY OMNIBUS

Includes every Antonio Prohias
Spy vs. Spy adventure!
All reproduced in their
full, original size for
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SPY VS. SPY: FIGHT TO THE FINISH!

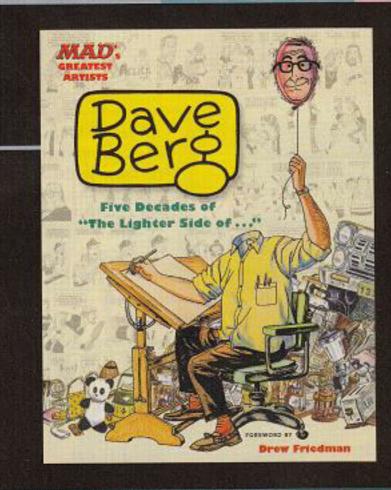
Special digest size! Includes 95 diabolical adventures by Peter Kuper!

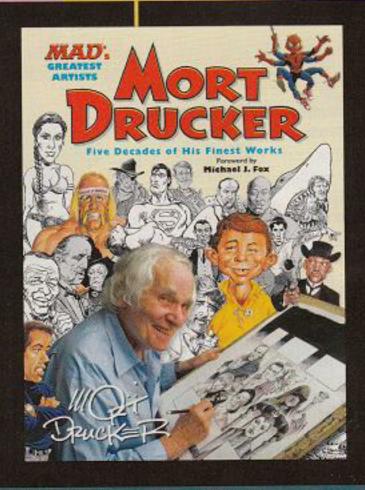


MAD'S GREATEST ARTISTS: MORT DRUCKER

Includes many of Mort's greatest movie satires plus essays by Michael J. Fox, Steven Spielberg, J.J. Abrams, and others! Also a classic, vintage pull-out poster! 239 pages of all-ne adventures! From the executive produof Last Week Tonig with John Oliver

PLANET TA



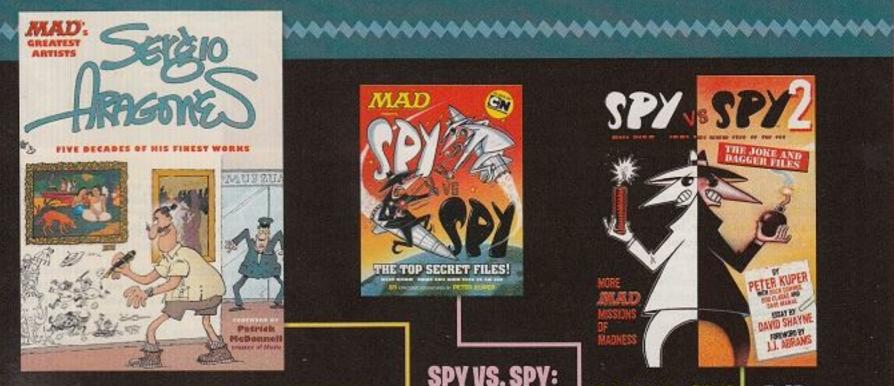


ON SALE NOW

IN THE BOOK SECTION

\*\*\*\*\*\*

## (AND PROUDLY DECLARE YOURSELF A COMPLETE IDIOT!)







### **INSIDE MAD**

Celebrate 60 years of MAD with 256 pages hand-picked by MAD's creators and its most famous fans! Featuring essays by Judd Apatow, Whoopi Goldberg, Tony Hawk and more!

Includes new, original, never-before-seen Sergio art! Plus an 18"x24" pull-out poster featuring 500 of Sergio's favorite marginals!

VS. SPY:

Special digest size! Includes 65 explosive adventures by Peter Kuper!

Includes every Spy vs. Spy adventure from 1987-2007!

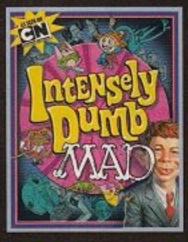
Six wacky collections,

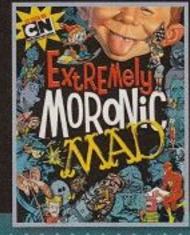
perfect for fans

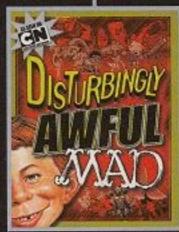
of MAD on

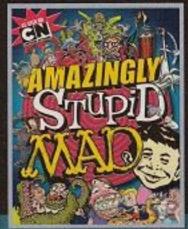
Cartoon Network!

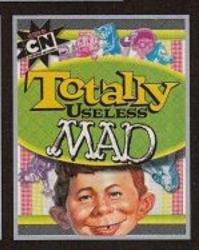
From the Editors of the New York Times Bestseller Totally MAD Introduction by Judd Apatow

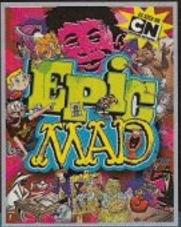












OF BOOKSTORES WHEREVER BOOKS ARE SOLD — DUH!

.

They're snarky! They're fast-paced! They're Access Hollywood with Tourette Syndrome! They're sure-fire signs of the apocalypse — and the source of another installment of ...

## MADD DE TVTalks

TMZ on TV presents itself as a tasty banquet of deliciously spicy gossip. But first, you're invited to choke down a full hour of a stale, bloated appetizer: TMZ Live, co-hosted by AARP Ralph Malph and Suburban Busta Rhymes — better known as Harvey Levin and Whoever That Guy Is.

When it comes to production values, they've pulled out all the stops: they've stopped using a script, they've stopped using production design and they've stopped using professional camerawork. It's just two catty dudes on stools rambling about the celebrity minutiae they're going to repeat on the real TMZ show. For...an...hour. Their conversation has the depth of a drunken tweet with 140,000,000 characters.

The interesting thing will be to see whether the judge lets Rebecca Black testify.

Very interesting, yeah. And as soon as anything happens, we'll let you know. In the meantlme, since nothing is happening, what do you think might happen?

To add some excitement, the cameras occasionally cut away to some guy who's standing 15 feet away from Harvey. Or if it's an extra-special day, a full segment has been sold to a sponsor. You haven't lived until you've seen a seven-minute interview with Chester Cheetah about his top five most "Crunchtastic" stars.



If you start dozing off — and you will — do what families do on extended car rides and play a game: count how many times Harvey says variations of "The thing that's going to be interesting is..." or "It will really be interesting to see..." Ignore the logical conclusion: what is interesting is not here.

Only one thing is more insipid than Harvey's vacuous meanderings: the sub-moronic comments from the public via Skype! Watch some shut-in give Miley Cyrus career advice! Listen to a teenage boy give notes on how Batman v Superman should be filmed! See a woman in a soupstained Broncos t-shirt criticize Iggy Azalea's wardrobe!



Are the fan comments always uninsightful? Absolutely. Do the Skype connections look like they've been run through a 1960s Soviet Soyuz spacecraft? Always. But they deliver something critical: "Anybody could do this sh\*t" is the hammer Harvey uses to keep his underpaid staff of cubicle jockeys meek and scared, knowing that their mindless chatter can be replaced tomorrow by any yutz with a 17-dollar fiber-optic cable.



Time for the real show! And time for the "Coming up!" opening teaser, where they take a few upcoming segments and boil them down in a futile attempt to make you think this episode of TMZ on TV might be different in any way from the previous 1,600. You won't BELIEVE who walked to their car and then got into their car this week!

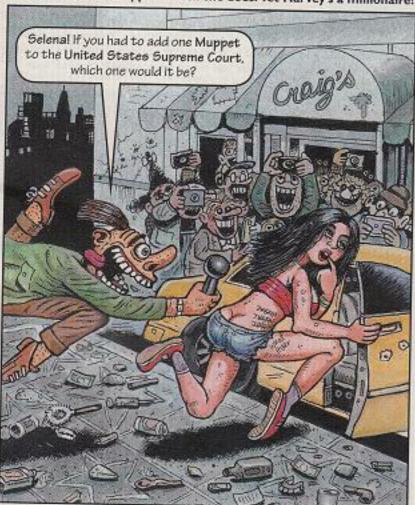


## constructs hows The and Mount

Say hello to Harvey's Nineteen Dwarves. They all moved to Los Angeles to become famous actors and actresses. But Plan A didn't work out. And neither did Plan B, Plan C, or Plans D through H. And the open porn auditions went badly. So now they sit around making fun of real actors and actresses.



It's the inane, subtitled celebrity street interview!
The TMZ trademark is the dumb hit-and-run question shouted at the famous. Sure, the questions make no sense. But it's not like it makes the slightest bit of sense for a "Field Camera Operator" to stand outside a nightclub for five hours, waiting for Selena Gomez to make a 15-second walk to her limo — or for anybody to care what happens when she does. Yet Harvey's a millionaire!



The unsung hero of TMZ on TV is its invisible announcer. He's the guy who blew the Nickelodeon audition for Fred because his voice was deemed too irritating. As he punches home each lame joke with an ungodly screech, forcing his narration to rise and drop two octaves 15 times per half-hour, his testicles are rocketing up and recoiling down like a pair of paddleballs. His face is never shown on camera — due to the certainty that if his identity were known, he would be hunted down and slain.



Since their first video sneak attack was so utterly riveting, it's time for twelve more of them in a row! And you know you're in for something special when the target they've cornered requires a lengthy buildup explaining who, exactly, the "celebrity" is.



WRITER: DESMOND DEVLIN

ARTIST: TOM BUNK

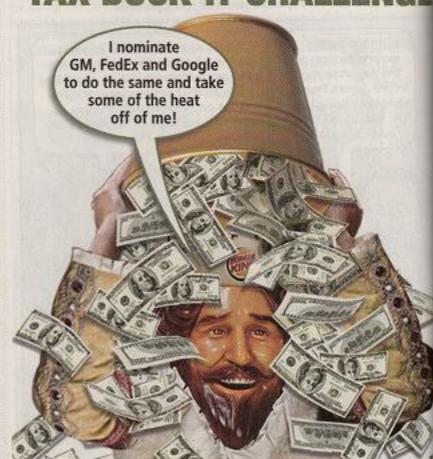
## The Best of The Idiotical

## TONIGHT! "THE KERR-FUFFLE IN IBIZA"

TALE OF THE TAPE

VS.





## CELEBRITIES WITHOUT THEIR MAKEUP









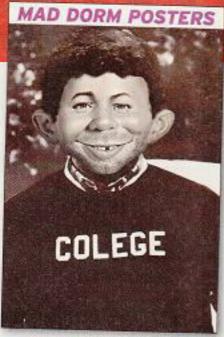


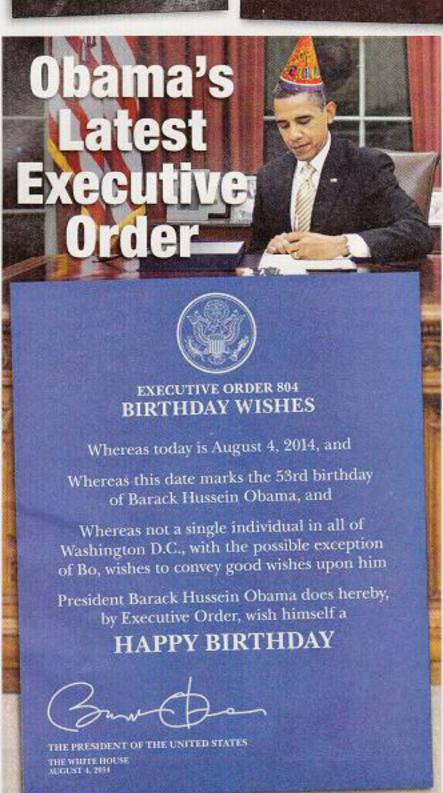


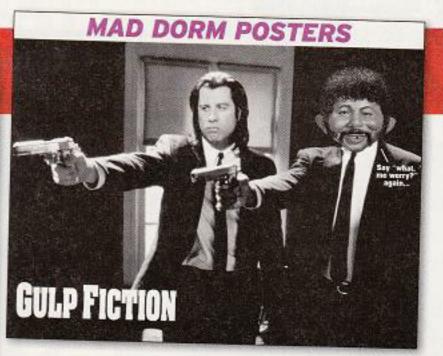


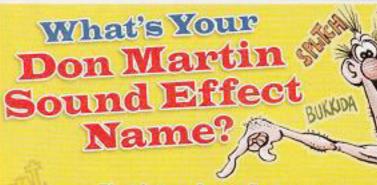












#### First letter of your first name:

A: Plam	N: Glank
B: Fump	O: Blidit
C: Plork	P: Glorp
D: Chonk	Q: Zweech
E: Gloop	R: Thork
F: Blorp	S: Ploop
G: Foop	T: Sklurk
H: Dang	U: Spash
I: Doont	V: Zingo
J: Fap	W: Bap
K: Floon	X: Thot
L: Groon	Y: Wunk
M: Zeem	Z: Oot

#### First letter of your last name:

Titos tostor or Jour suos manos	
N: Gashklitzka	
O: Kladwak	
P: Voomaroom	
Q: Kachunka	
R: Sloople	
S: Flork	
T: Kwonk	
U: Ploip	
V: Laflatch	
W: McPwaf	
X: Patwang	
Y: Fagroon	
Z: Schloop	



Back in 2006, we ran "Questions We'd Like to Ask the Turkey Hotline," and it was such a hit that we declined to run a sequel in 2007 — or 2008, or 2009, or any other year. But like watching the Detroit Lions or choking down Uncle Gary's hot dog stuffing, some Thanksgiving traditions must be revisited, no matter how unwelcome. So with that in mind, we dollop out another helping of

## Questions We'd Like to Ask the TURKEY HOTLINE

We went with
a ham this Thanksgiving
but I feel like you and I really
connected last year —
so it's okay to call just
to talk, right?

We were
invited to our
neighbor's house for a
turkey dinner with all the fixin's.
We're here now and it's clearly
a turkey dinner with all the
trimmings. Should we
be pissed?

How many
days does a 12-pound
turkey need to float in
our saltwater aquarium
to be properly
brined?

Is "giblets"

pronounced with a soft

or hard "g"? This year, I'm

really hoping to avoid

"The Argument."

Can you
recommend a nice
little bed & breakfast
in Istanbul's Güngören
district? What do you
mean, "This isn't that
Turkey Hotline"?

Who's the
wiseass who sneaks
into my bathroom every
year and crams a pitted black
olive over the head of
my toothbrush?

where can I get more of that sexy plastic netting the bird comes in? 2014 EDITION

How is someone
whose Thanksgiving meal is
probably a lukewarm Hot Pocket
and some stale microwave popcorn in
an employee break room qualified to
give me advice about properly
cooking a turkey?

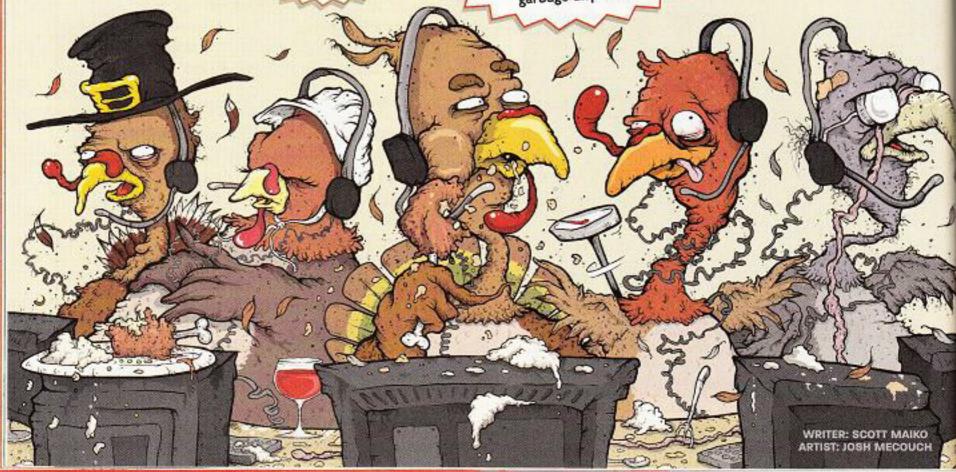
Do you give
less accurate advice
if it's someone calling in
from a homeless shelter or
soup kitchen? Because they
probably didn't pay for
the turkeys, you know.
I'm just sayin'.

My cousin brought
over a delicately roasted
pancetta-sage gravy to perfectly
complement her orange and rosemaryinfused pistachio quinoa stuffing
with baby figs. Will this clog the
garbage disposal?

I need to get
rid of my a-hole in-laws
at a decent hour — can you
call back around 8:00 and
say there's a bomb
in my house?

How many times
can my husband say
"You've been chopped" after
a dish he doesn't like has been
put on the table before it's
okay for me to knee him
in the balls?

l've been to
six stores and no one
carries these "dingleberries" my
grandson mentioned in his reply
to my post for Thanksgiving
menu suggestions. Where
can I find them?



WHAT'S THE NEXT BIG DEVELOPMENT **E-CIGARETTES?** 

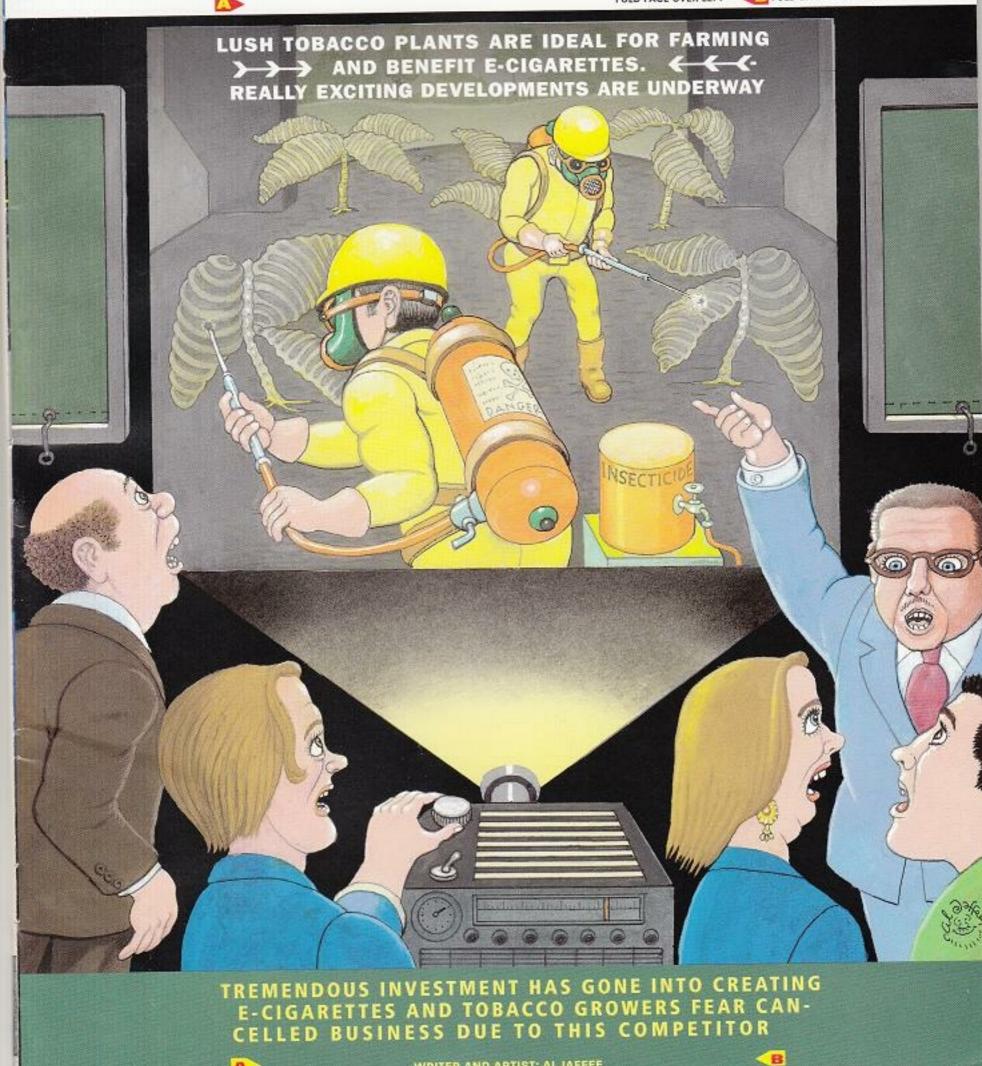
### HERE WE GO WITH ANOTHER RIDICULOUS FOLD-IN

E-cigarettes have become a huge success! Sure, there are those who say they're just as addictive and harmful as regular cigarettes — but they're probably just blowing smoke! Most people find them to be a breath of fresh air and can't wait to see what E-cig manufacturers will cough up next!



FOLD PAGE OVER LEFT

FOLD BACK SO THAT "A" MEETS "B"

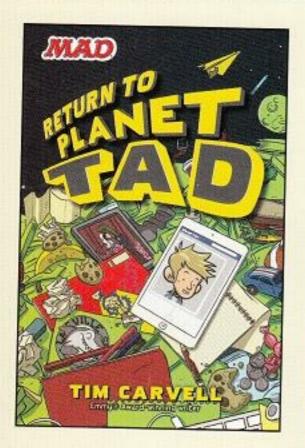


WRITER AND ARTIST: AL JAFFEE

A

## LOOK OUT, WORLD!

Tad is back with another hilarious year-in-the-blog



Tad may have survived the seventh grade, but his troubles are just getting started.

From his first sort-of date (a disaster) to his first semiformal dance (a bigger disaster), all Tad wants to do is make it out of this year alive.

## Here's what a few funny people had to say about the first book:

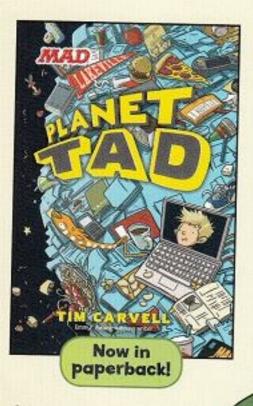
"Hilarious to anyone who ever went through, is currently in, might go to, or flunked out of middle school."



"Tad is the rapid-fire, pop-culture-referencing, actually funny stand-up-comic-in-waiting that I wanted to be in middle school!"

### TOM ANGLEBERGER

Author of the New York Times bestseller THE STRANGE CASE OF ORIGAMI YODA



↓ Join the fun: Read an excerpt at www.harpercollinschildrens.com!

MAD

PLANET TAD is based on a blog of the same name in MAD MAGAZINE, " and © E.C. Publications. (s14)

HARPER